

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(3259.00011)

**Applicant:** Werner Sievers et al **Paper No:**

**Application No.:** (Continuation of International **Group Art Unit:**  
Application No. PCT/EP98/03381)

**Filed:** December 5, 2000 **Examiner:**

**Title:** Nanoporous Interpenetrating Organic-Inorganic Networks

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above application (filed herewith), applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

In claim 3, line 1, delete "or Claim 2".

In claim 4, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-3" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 5, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-4" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 6, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-5" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 7, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-5" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 8, line 3, delete "one of Claims 1-7" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 12, line 2, delete "or Claim 9".

In claim 14, line 1, delete "Claims 6-12" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 8 --.

Please add the following new claims:

Claim 15 (NEW). Molded article or surface coating consisting of material according to Claim 9.

Claim 16 (NEW). Process for the production of molded articles or surface coatings according to Claim 15, characterized in that the aqueous solutions or dispersions are introduced into a mold or applied to a surface and in that a gel is then formed and dried.

Claim 17 (NEW). Use of materials such as those defined in Claim 9 in conjunction with dyes, indicators, receptors, enzymes, and/or biomolecules for medical diagnostics and sensor technology.

Claim 18 (NEW). Use of molded article or surface coatings such as those defined in Claim 12 in conjunction with dyes, indicators, receptors, enzymes, and/or biomolecules for medical diagnostics and sensor technology.

Claim 19 (NEW). Use of molded article or surface coatings such as those defined in Claim 15 in conjunction with dyes, indicators, receptors, enzymes, and/or biomolecules for medical diagnostics and sensor technology.

### REMARKS

No additional filing fee is required in connection with the entry of the foregoing amendments, since the total claims, as amended, number less than 20, including no more than three independent claims.

Respectfully submitted,




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 12/5/00  
Rachelle Chery Date